

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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GROUP 3700

Appn. Number: 08/580,493

Appn. Filed: 1995 Dec 29

Applicant: Philippe Berna

Appn. Title: PROCESS FOR MAKING A VERSATILE CLAMPING DEVICE
DESIGNED TO HOLD OBJECTS WITHOUT DAMAGING THEM, SUCH A
DEVICE AND ITS USE.

Examiner/GAU: David Bryant/3726

Molières-sur-Cèze, France, 2000, July 4, Tue

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, District of Columbia 20231

Sir:

In the continuation application filed on 2000, May 15 to the above patent
application, please amend pending independent claims 1, 2 and 16 as follows:

Sub P17
--1. (Nine Times Amended) A method of making a device for holding an object
by clamping the object while preventing damage thereto, said method comprising the
steps of:

providing a [cylindrical] support part which is cylindrical all along,

providing two arms, each arm including a transverse hole and at least one of
these arms carrying an elastic buffer secured thereto, said buffer having a contact face
for contacting said object and having under its contact face a thickness large enough so
that said buffer acts as a compression spring when said buffer contacts said object, and
being resilient enough such that said contact face can flex and pivot to substantially
conform to the surface of said object, and

placing said arms on said support part such that said support part is disposed
in said transverse holes of said two arms and at least one arm is movable along said
support part, and said buffer is disposed at a distance from said support part with its
contact face approximately at a right angle to said support part, and

wherein said object may be held by said device by positioning said object
between said arms and in contact with said elastic buffer, and tilting said at least one
movable arm with respect to said support part such that a frictional force is created
between said support part and an interior surface of the transverse hole of said at least
one movable arm.